

March 31, 2005

Case No. GP-302117 (2760/58)

Serial No.: 10/077,013

Filed: February 13, 2002

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- REMARKS -

A. Claims 1-3, 7-11, 15-17, 20 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C.

§102(e) as anticipated by Wakamatsu

The §102(e) rejection of claims 1-3, 7-11, 15-17, 20 and 21 is traversed.

In order to maintain the §102(e) rejection of claims 1-3, 7-11, 15-17, 20 and 21, each and every element of the claimed invention must be disclosed by the reference in at least as great detail as claimed. Because the references alone or in combination fail to teach, at a minimum, "determining whether the information location coordinate data resides within a convex hull" as claimed in claims 1, 9, 17, and 21, the §102(e) rejection must fall to those independent claims, as well as claims 2-3, 7-8, 10-11, 15-16 and 18-20 depending directly or indirectly from claims 1, 9 or 17 respectively.

The Examiner incorrectly cites to Wakamatsu for support, as the cited section fails to disclose use of a "convex hull."

Those of ordinary skill in the art recognize that one customary definition of a "convex hull" is "For a set S in space, the smallest convex set containing S. In the plane, the convex hull can be visualized as the shape assumed by a rubber band that has been stretched around the set S and released to conform as closely as possible to S." See, e.g. the definition of "convex hull" at dictionary.com.

The specification similarly defines a convex hull as the smallest convex polygon for which each point in the polygon is either on the boundary or in its interior. See, specification, page 10, lines 6-7.

Wakamatsu does not disclose use of a convex hull, use of a polygon, use of a convex polygon, or even the boundary of a polygon at all. At most, Wakamatsu discloses displaying only information relevant to the area of a vehicle position.

Withdrawal of the rejections to claims 1-3, 7-11, 15-17, 20 and 21 is requested.

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B. Claims 4-6, 12-14, 18 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Wakamatsu in view of Park

The §103(a) rejections of claims 4-6, 12-14, 18 and 19 are traversed.

Each of claims 4-6, 12-14, 18 and 19 depends directly or indirectly from one of claims 1, 9 and 17, and is therefore patentable over the references for at least the same reasons as above.

In addition, Park does not teach or suggest generating a convex hull from the recorded vehicle location coordinates, as alleged by the Examiner, and claimed. At most, Park teaches creating a data record concerning a single geographic point of interest, corresponding to a current location. Park does not teach collecting data relating to a convex hull. Therefore, the claims are patentable over the combination of Wakamatsu and Park for at least this additional reason.

Withdrawal of the rejections to claims 4-6, 12-14, 18 and 19 is requested.

C. Claim 22 is patentable over the prior art as the prior art does not disclose, teach, or suggest each and every element of the claim.

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SUMMARY

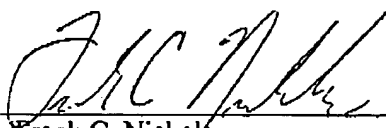
The Examiner's rejections of claims 1-21 have been obviated by remarks herein supporting an allowance of pending claims 1-21 over the art of record. The Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-22 herein fully satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102, 103 and 112. In view of the foregoing, favorable consideration and passage to issue of the present application is respectfully requested. If any points remain in issue that may best be resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Dated: March 31, 2005

Respectfully submitted,
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